



## Freedom of Information Response

Our reference: FOI 24-1275

Responded to: 31 May 2024

Your recent request for information is replicated below, together with our response.

### 1. How many officers are still serving with Drink Driving convictions.

Having considered your request in terms of the above Act, I regret to inform you that I am unable to provide you with the information you have requested, as it would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

To provide this information, over 17,000 serving Police Officers would have to be manually checked against the Criminal History System to ascertain whether the officer has ever been convicted of any drink driving offence.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

### 2. How many officers have passed vetting with Drink Driving convictions.

In 2020 there was a change to the law in respect of spent convictions for police officer applicants, as such since then, we are able to consider all criminal convictions regardless of their age. Prior to this change, we were unable to.

Police Scotland now refuse vetting for anyone who has a drink driving conviction regardless of how long ago it was recorded.

To provide information for officers recruited prior to 2020 would require the physical examination of each individuals record and this would prove too costly to do so within the context of the fee regulations.

As you may be aware the current cost threshold is £600 and I estimate that it would cost well in excess of this amount to process your request.

## OFFICIAL

As such, and in terms of Section 16(4) of the Freedom of Information (Scotland) Act 2002 where Section 12(1) of the Act (Excessive Cost of Compliance) has been applied, this represents a refusal notice for the information sought.

If you require any further assistance, please contact us quoting the reference above.

You can request a review of this response within the next 40 working days by [email](#) or by letter (Information Management - FOI, Police Scotland, Clyde Gateway, 2 French Street, Dalmarnock, G40 4EH). Requests must include the reason for your dissatisfaction.

If you remain dissatisfied following our review response, you can appeal to the Office of the Scottish Information Commissioner (OSIC) within 6 months - [online](#), by [email](#) or by letter (OSIC, Kinburn Castle, Doubledykes Road, St Andrews, KY16 9DS).

Following an OSIC appeal, you can appeal to the Court of Session on a point of law only.

This response will be added to our [Disclosure Log](#) in seven days' time.

Every effort has been taken to ensure our response is as accessible as possible. If you require this response to be provided in an alternative format, please let us know.